

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY AF/C:TFKILLORAN:JDP

APPROVED BY AF:WSCHAUFLE

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S/S :FORTIZ

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 017950

EXDIS FOR AMBASSADOR ONLY

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: MILI, AO

SUBJECT: MILITARY SITUATION IN ANGOLA

REF: MONROVIA 533

1. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION MAY BE TRANSMITTED ORALLY  
TO PRESIDENT TOLBERT AND FONMIN.

2. THE MILITARY OUTLOOK FOR FNLA AND UNITA IS BLEAK.  
LARGE NUMBERS OF FNLA AND ZAIRIAN TROOPS HAVE RETREATED  
INTO ZAIRE. FNLA STILL MAINTAINS A PRESENCE IN SANTO  
ANTONIO DO ZAIRE AND SAO SALVADOR. ON JANUARY 22, MPLA  
AND CUBAN FORCES WERE ZEROING THEIR 122 MM ROCKETS ON  
TARGETS IN THE AREA AROUND TOMBOCO. THE MPLA RADIO IN  
LUANDA HAS ANNOUNCED AN IMMINENT ATTACK ON DAMBA IN THE  
NORTHER INTERIOR, ABOUT SIXTY MILES FROM THE ZAIRIAN  
BORDER.

3. IN THE CENTER OF THE COUNTRY, MPLA AND THE CUBANS

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HAVE CAPTURED THE TOWNS OF SANTA COMBA AND CELA AND APPEAR

TO BE SETTING UP FOR A MAJOR OFFENSIVE AT SEVERAL POINTS.  
THE RAILROAD TOWN OF LUSO, IN THE EAST, WILL BE A KEY  
OBJECTIVE.

4. SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS ARE STILL IN ANGOLA, BUT NO  
LONGER IN FRONT LINE POSITIONS AND PRESS REPORTS TO THE  
EFFECT THAT THE SAG HAS DECIDED TO PULL OUT ARE ACCURATE.  
WITHOUT THE SOUTH AFRICANS, UNITA WILL HAVE GREAT  
DIFFICULTY HOLDING ITS POSITIONS AND MAY WELL BE COMPELLED  
TO REVERT TO INSURGENCY. THE UNITA SOUTHERN FRONT CON  
TINUES TO BE RESUPPLIED FROM ABROAD. SISCO

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY OCCUPIED AREAS, LIBERATION FRONTS, COMBAT OPERATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 JAN 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** coburnhl  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976STATE017950  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** TFKILLORAN:JDP  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X1  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760027-0287  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760125/aaaaavlu.tel  
**Line Count:** 72  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN SS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** 76 MONROVIA 533  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** coburnhl  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 22 JUN 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <22 JUN 2004 by buchant0>; APPROVED <18 OCT 2004 by coburnhl>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MILITARY SITUATION IN ANGOLA  
**TAGS:** MILI, AO, MPLA, FNLA, UNITA  
**To:** MONROVIA  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006